(d) Two of the assailants were arrested by the Romanian Security personnel. Two of the assailants who fled immediately after the incident are yet to be arrested.

(e) The nationality of the assailants has yet to be ascertained as the investigation is still continuing.

(f) and (g) Since the crime was committed in Romania, the assailants will be prosecuted only according to laws in Romania.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) The responsibility for the protection of Indian diplomats abroad is that of the host Government. However, we constantly apprise our Missions of all threats to their security and advise them to alert the local Government so that they may provide adequate security arrangements for their protection.

Revitalisation Plan for Shipyards in the Country

1365. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under its consideration any proposal for revitalising the public sector shipyards in the country;

(b) the reasons which prompted Government for making such a programme in the light of the serious economic condition of the country;

(c) the cost involved on this programme and how Government propose to meet it;

(d) the names of the public sector shipyards which are going to be effected by this programme; and

(e) whether this revitalisation programme will make any addition to the exchequer and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) The two large public sector shipyards under the administrative control of Ministry of Surface Transport, namely, Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin and Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam have been incurring losses since early 1980s. The accumulated losses of these shipyards as on 31st March, 1991 stood at around Rs. 170 crores and Rs. 350 crores, respectively. In order to revitalise the strategic shipbuilding industry and to make these public sector units economically viable, a number of steps are persently under consideration of the Government. These include capital re-structuring, upward revision of Govt. subsidy payable for construction of ocean-going vessels, duty free imports upto 50% of realisable price of vessels etc. It is, however, too early to quantify the cost involved in the revitalisation of the two shipyards and the benefits that may accrue to the national exchequer because these will depend upon the nature of decisions that are finally taken in the matter.

Recruitment of E.D. employees by P and T Department

1366. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a big racket for recruitment of Extra Departmental Employees by the Superintendent, Post Office at Sonepat, Haryana is going on thereby the deserving candidates do not get the jobs and money plays its part;

(b) the number of Extra Departmental Employees recruited since resumption of duty by Shri D. R. Wadhwa, Superintendent Post Offices, Sonepat Postal Division, Haryana.

(c) the number of such employees recruited directly and through the Employment Exchange;

(d) the reasons which compelled for direct recruitment against the prescribed ordain;

(e) whether Government would make enquiry on the whole episode and if need be refer the case to CBI for detailed enquiry; and

(f) whether the persons so recruited would be replaced by the deserving candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Since resumption of duty on 16-11-1990, seven Extra Departmental Employees were recruited by Sh. D. R. Wadhwa in Sonepat Division, Haryana.

(c) Out of seven, six Extra Departmental Agents were recruited directly and one through the Employment Exchange.

(d) Reasons for making direct recruitment are as under:

(i) In two cases nominations were not received from Employment Exchange within stipulated period of 30 days.

(ii) In two other cases candidates sponsored by Employment Exchange did not fulfill the prescribed eligibility conditions.

(iii) In remaining two cases, Superintendent of Posts Offices absorbed two Extra Departmental Employees, rendered surplus, in accordance with the instructions of the Department.

(e) In view of reply to paras (a), (b) and (c) the Department does not feel the necessity of holding enquiry into the matter.

(f) Question does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c).

Speed Breakers on National Highways

1367. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there are a large number of speed breakers on the National Highways without white markings on them in Maharashtra which result in accidents during nights and the steps taken by Government to bring these speed breakers to the national standard; and

(b) whether there is any plan for expansion of the National Highways in the near future in Maharashtra; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Though as per policy no speed breaker is permitted on National Highways, they have been unauthorisedly constructed at some locations. State Government has been advised to remove the same.

(b) The proposals for expansion of National Highways in Maharashtra can be considered only after finalization of the VIII Five Year Plan.

Visit of high level Netpalese task force to India

1368. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Nepalese Task Force is visiting India shortly on economic cooperation between India and Nepal; and

(b) if so, the issues which are going to be discussed therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) A high level Nepalese delegation visited India in connection with the second meeting of the Indo-Nepal High Level Task Force from September 1-3, 1991.

(b) A wide range of issues of mutual interest relating to bilateral economic cooperation were discussed at the meeting including trade, transit, control of unauthorised trade and cooperation in the fields of industry, civil aviation, education and culture. The High Level